Kentucky**CAN!**

A Proposal

The Kentucky College Access Corps

February 2009

Dr. Joe L. McCormick
Executive Director
KentuckyCAN, Inc.

Kentucky College Access Corps

In the spirit of the Peace Corps, Teach for America, AmeriCorps and the National College Advising Corps, it is proposed that:

- *A Kentucky College Access Corps be created to actively engage students fulltime in successful preparation for careers and postsecondary education opportunities…*

- *Work with schools and local community organizations to promote and sustain a "college-going" culture in the local community…*

Kentucky College Access Corps

- *Kentucky College Access Corps* volunteers would be recent college graduates paid a nominal salary and be dedicated to serve students solely for college access related activities within their assigned area.

- At the completion of their two-year college access coaching role, their student loans would be paid in full up to a maximum of $25,000 per volunteer.

Kentucky College Access Corps

Kentucky College Access Corps volunteers would be thoroughly trained in the:

- the Individual Learning Plan (KDE)

- GoHigherKY.org (KHEAA)

- KnowHow2GOKY (CPE)

- and other college access related services such as the Junior Achievement "Real Jobs, Real World" program

Kentucky College Access Corps

It is envisioned that:

- *Kentucky College Access Corps* volunteers would become *"college access & success coaches!"*

- They would work with students both in group and individual settings and monitor their progress all through school to high school graduation and a successful matriculation into a postsecondary program of study.

- They would work with local community organizations to foster and maintain a "college-going" culture in the local community.

Kentucky College Access Corps

- It is proposed that the program be piloted state-wide to include at least five *Kentucky College Access Corps* volunteers in each of the eight college regions of the state.

- To the extent possible, the business community would be encouraged to support the program along with grants from entities such as the Lumina Foundation, UPS, General Electric, AmeriCorps, and others.

Kentucky College Access Corps

- A one-month training program will need to be developed to adequately train & equip the college access coaches with the information and skills needed to work with low-income students and their families.

- To the extent possible, college access coaches will be placed in schools and communities that they themselves came from in order to more easily identify and blend into the local community.

Kentucky College Access Corps: Possible Funding

- AmeriCorps provides their volunteers:
  - $11,400 per year salary plus health insurance
  - An $9,450 stipend at the end of their two-year service for loan forgiveness or college tuition costs
- Local businesses &/or foundations may very well contribute to the cost of training volunteers and/or their loan forgiveness up to the proposed $25,000

Kentucky College Access Corps: Timeline to Implementation for State-wide Initiative

- **February 2009 to December 2009**
  - Prepare funding proposals & submit to prospective donors
  - Develop curriculum for the training program for volunteers
  - Identify the strategies necessary to inform, recruit, & select 40 volunteers for service

- **January 2010 to May 2010**
  - solicit & recruit volunteers for 2010/2011 service
  - Identify the site & faculty for the volunteer training in July 2010
  - Continue to identify sponsors and potential funding sources
  - Apply for AmeriCorps funding & other funds

- **August 2010** – Training KYCAN volunteers

- **September 2010 to June 2011** – KYCAN College Access Corps Volunteers work in their first year

Think about it!!!!

- A corps of highly motivated, dedicated recent college graduates working fulltime in every college region of Kentucky.

- Giving 100% of their time for two years to work with young people to fully prepare for life beyond high school.

- Where do I sign up???

The Kentucky College Access Corps!!!